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SOURCE [REDACTED]

1. The Communists have started repair work on the railroad line between Wuchang (127-09, 44-55) and Chiaoho (127-20, 43-43) with the intention of completing the work by the end of the year. The construction office at Chiaoho, set up by the Hsüanchiang Bureau, had completed the initial survey of the damage by the end of September. An employee of the Chiaoho office is of the opinion that the work cannot be completed before the spring of 1948 because there is a lack of essential materials such as bolts and spikes and because steel bridges and water supply tanks have suffered heavy damage.

25X1A [REDACTED] note: The following items regarding Communist railroad reconstruction in Manchuria are taken from the New China News Service releases for 25 and 27 November respectively:

North Shensi, 22 November. - Following the Third Manchurian Financial and Economic Conferences, high officials and engineers of railway administration for liberated Manchuria went into a 22 day session ending October 25th to review their past achievements and lay out plans for the coming months. In reviewing accomplishments for the past year in the Northeast's new democratic railroad construction, the conference pointed out that during the past half year 470 miles of new railroad were built, with the cooperation of railroad workers and people of liberated areas. Passenger train speed increased from 40 to 50 kilometers an hour, while coal consumption decreased from 72 to 51 kilograms per kilometer. Expenditures for materials decreased 41.5 percent. A railway institute was also established during this period.

Tsitsihar, 26 November. - Within 70 days railroad workers of liberated Manchuria again repaired 122 miles of railway between Tsitsihar and Nunkiang (Nenchiang 125-13, 49-11). Railroad workers and onlookers saw a train leave Nunkiang for the first run to Tsitsihar on November 20th. Now regular trains run daily between these two northern Manchurian cities.)

2. During the last two weeks of August the Communists removed from Harbin (to an unstated place) a quantity of lathes and other machine tools.

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